

REMARKS

Claims 40-43 and 50-71 are currently pending in the present application. Claims 32-39 and 44-49 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 41, 50, 52 and 54 have been amended to depend from allowed claims and therefore are also allowable. New claims 66-71 have been added. Support for the newly added claims may be found throughout the specification. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

I. **Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)**

Claims 32-36, 38, 39, 41-43, 50, 52, 54, 55, 57 60 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Romaine (U.S. 4,270,537) in view of Brownfield (U.S. 5,681,283).

Applicants have cancelled claims 32-36 and 39 thereby making the rejection of these claims moot. Applicants have amended claims 41, 50, 52 and 54 to depend from allowed claims. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 55, 57 and 60 as being unpatentable over Romaine in view of Brownfield based on the traversals discussed below.

Applicants' claim 55 requires an infusion set, a cover and a device housing where the cover is removably secured to the device housing. These features of claim 55 are clearly not taught by Romaine and Brownfield, separately or in combination.

Romaine is directed to a hypodermic syringe and automatic needle insertion device. (Abstract.) Syringe 10 is contained in a hollow cylinder 20 dimensioned to receive barrel 12 of the syringe. (Col 2, lines 55-56.) Romaine does not teach or suggest an infusion set. Romaine further does not teach or suggest a device housing and a cover where the cover is removably secured to the housing. Indeed, the Examiner uses the same element (cylinder 20) in Romaine to refer to both the housing and the cover.

Brownfield is directed to a device for painless insertion of a needle for needle injected medication. The device is a sleeve 1 with inside diameter sized to guide the hypodermic syringe body toward the base 7 by the power of the stretched rubber bands (9). (Col 2, lines 29-32.) Brownfield also fails to teach or suggest an infusion set, a cover and a device housing. Brownfield clearly fails to make up the deficiencies of Romaine.

Clearly, Romaine and Brownfield, alone and in combination, fail to teach or suggest the injector device assembly as claimed in claim 55. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 55, 57 and 60 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) be withdrawn.

II. New Claims 66-71

Newly added claims 66-71 also recite an infusion set, a device housing and a removable cover. Applicants assert that claims 66-71 are also allowable.

III. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants kindly thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 40, 51, 53, 56, 58, 59 and 61-64 are allowable. Claims 41, 50, 52 and 54 depend from allowable claims and are therefore also allowable.

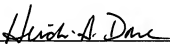
IV. SUMMARY

It is respectfully asserted that the claims properly define the invention and that the invention is both novel and non-obvious. Allowance of the present claims is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner wish to discuss any of the above submissions in more detail, the Examiner is asked to please call the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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